

 King County	Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention Adult Divisions General Policy Manual		
	Chapter 4 Security & Use of Force		
4.01.009, Inmate Wristbands	Approved By:	Director John Diaz	
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Purpose

To outline the procedures for inmate wristbands.

Policy

It is the policy of the department that all inmates shall be given an identification wristband when booked and shall be expected to wear the wristband throughout their incarceration, unless specifically exempted.

References

Jail Health Form:	Medical Alert Form
Department Policies:	6.02.002, Inmate Disciplinary System
	5.01.001, Intake Procedures
Department Form:	Rule Infraction Report

Definitions

Identification Wristband: A plastic wristband worn on an inmate's wrist, which displays the inmate's picture, book of arrest number, and bar code.

A. General Guidelines

1. Jail Health Services staff shall determine if an inmate's medical issues would prevent the wearing of a wristband and communicate that to all staff.
2. Whenever an inmate is exempt from wearing an identification wristband:
 - a. A Medical Alert Form should be completed indicating the medical exemption to the requirement of wearing a wristband and the expiration of the exemption, if known.
 - b. Medical Alert Forms shall be attached to the deck card for the inmate indicated in the form.
 - c. A log entry shall be made in the JMS shift log if the Medical Alert Form is received in the unit and attached to the inmate's deck card.
 - d. A replacement identification wristband shall be held at the staff station where the inmate is being housed.
3. Officers guarding an inmate at a hospital, who has been booked in absentia, shall attach an identification wristband to the inmate with or without a photograph being taken.

4. Officers shall not remove an inmate's identification wristband for a court appearance, unless directed by a court order and authorized by a shift commander or higher authority. If removed, the wristband shall be replaced, by the escorting officer, upon return to the facility from court.
5. When an inmate requests a replacement of his or her identification wristband, no infraction shall be written. Exception to this includes, and is not limited to, wristbands that have been modified by the inmate.
6. The following services may be delayed if an inmate is not wearing his or her identification wristband:
 - a. Release, until all other compliant inmates are processed, but prior to the end of the day for scheduled releases until the inmate can be positively identified.
 - b. Medication, until the inmate can be positively identified.
7. The following services require an inmate to be wearing an identification wristband:
 - a. Commissary
 - b. Public visitation
 - c. Outside yard
 - d. Program participation
 - e. Notary services
 - f. General mail
 - g. Inmate Worker status, or removal from a psychiatric housing unit
 - h. Court, wristband required, but the inmate shall not be denied or delayed appearance(s).
 - i. Release
 - j. Inter-Facility Transfers
 - k. King County Cooperative Chain
 - l. Department of Corrections Chain
8. Staff shall neither deny nor delay the following, due to the absence of an identification wristband:
 - a. Attorney visits, legal mail, and court appearances.
 - b. Meals

B. Procedure for Identification Wristbands

1. For the attachment of original identification wristbands:
 - a. The Booking Officer shall attach an identification wristband to every inmate, except those exempted by Jail Health Services or Psychiatric Services staff as indicated on a Medical Alert Form.
 - b. Housing Unit Officer(s) shall attach identification wristbands to those inmates no longer exempted by Jail Health Services staff.
 - c. The officer(s) shall log that a new identification wristband was attached.
2. When staff discover that an inmate is missing their identification wristband they shall:
 - a. Inform the Housing Unit Officer.
 - b. The Housing Unit Officer shall:
 - 1) Verify if the inmate has an exemption from wearing a wristband.
 - 2) If no exemption exists, write a Rule Infraction Report indicating the inmate is in violation of jail rules and forward signed copies following department policy 6.02.002, Inmate Disciplinary System.

- 3) Attach a new identification wristband to the inmate and document the attachment in the JMS shift log before the end of their shift.
 - 4) Ensure inmates going to attorney visits, court, or receiving legal mail obtain a replacement identification wristband as soon as practicable .
3. For inmates needing to be exempt from wearing an identification wristband:
 - a. Jail Health Services staff should:
 - 1) Inform the Booking Officer or Housing Unit Officer.
 - 2) Complete a Medical Alert Form indicating the exemption.
 - b. If informed by medical staff that an inmate is exempt from wearing a wristband, the Booking Officer or Housing Unit Officer shall:
 - 1) Either remove or do not apply the identification wristband.
 - 2) Attach the Medical Alert Form to the inmate's deck card.